

## United States Embassy Georgetown, Guyana Security Message for U.S. Citizens April 30, 2015

The United States Embassy in Georgetown alerts all U.S. citizens traveling and residing in Guyana of the increased threat of violence and civil disorder corresponding to national and regional elections on May 11, 2015. Guyana has experienced post-election violence in the past, and U.S. citizens are reminded that even political rallies intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. Additionally, U.S. citizens should be aware that the increased risk of violence and civil disorder extends past the elections, through the official announcement of results, and for some undefined period after. We advise all U.S. citizens to maintain a low profile and a heightened sense of awareness, and to avoid all public political gatherings and demonstrations. U.S. citizens should follow us on Twitter and Facebook in order to receive time-sensitive security notices.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Guyana enroll in the Department of State's <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> (STEP). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, you may enroll directly at the Embassy in Georgetown Monday - Thursday between 11-12 pm, no appointment is necessary. Regularly monitor the State Department's website, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the Country Specific Information for Guyana. For additional information, refer to *the "Traveler's Checklist"* on the State Department's website, <u>www.travel.state.gov</u>.

You can contact the U.S. Embassy for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to have travel information at your fingertips.

The United States Embassy in Georgetown is located at 100 Duke and Young Streets, Kingston, and is open Monday – Friday 7:30am to 4:00pm. The Embassy telephone number is 225-4900. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy is 623-1992.

American Citizen Services Unit United States Embassy Georgetown, Guyana